GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:638
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2008
CULTIVATION OF TURMERIC
Jagannath Dr. M.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the problems faced by the cultivators of turmeric in the State of Andhra Pradesh on account of steep fall in prices of turmeric;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Government has directed NAFED to start procurement of the turmeric from farmers at a remunerative price;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. There was slight fall in prices of turmeric in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last two years and current year (2006, 2007 and 2008) but steep fall in prices of turmeric not noticed during the above period.

During 2006-07, Andhra Pradesh MARKFED has procured 1100 quintals of turmeric @ Rs.2100 to Rs.2200 from Nizamabad and Metpally (Karimnagar) market centres. During current year, Andhra Pradesh MARKFED have opended up procurement centres at Armoor, Nizamabad districts to procure turmeric @ Rs.3,000/- per quintal.

(c) to (e): The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) through NAFED for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities which are perishable in nature and not covered under Price Support Scheme. Turmeric is one of the commodity procured under MIS. The scheme implemented on the specific request of the State/UT Government, willing to share the loss on 50:50 basis. The loss is restricted to the 25% of the procurement cost. The basic aim of the scheme is to avoid distress sale of the produce by farmers in case of glut in production and the prices fall below the economic level.